

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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I am particularly honored to be the first non-Army President of the National Military Intelligence Association. My distinguished predecessors have accomplished much. But — they have left more than enough for me to do.

One is tempted, when writing a letter like this one, to wax long and eloquently on lofty goals and objectives. Indeed, after reviewing the history of the NMIA I did prepare long lists of things we ought to accomplish during the coming year. But every list had a bottom line and that was money. Every goal that I established that would in some way serve the Chapters of the Association and the members of those Chapters came down to the simple fact of a viable National office. A place is needed where individuals and chapter offices can call, write or visit to get answers, help and information. While Chuck Thomann's home in Annapolis is serving admirably well in that role, I think it is time to stop taking advantage of his good nature and Joyce's even temperament and start looking seriously toward a permanent home and staff.

That means money — fiscal stability — and money means membership. While I can do some things to bring in new members, chapters and members must do the most. The Board of Directors and I will be looking for ways to give our Association the kind of national visibility it needs to support your drive for members. As that drive succeeds we will first establish fiscal stability. Our next goal will be to place the publication of the *American Intelligence Journal* on a regular quarterly schedule. The third step will be to establish a permanent home and staff for the Association in the Washington, D.C. area. If we can accomplish these things in the coming year, we will be lucky. With your help, we can be lucky.

Let me close by offering you an opportunity for visibility and profit. I recently attended a meeting of the Advisory Board of the National Intelligence Study Center. The President of the Center is Dr. Ray S. Cline and Board Members include LTG Daniel O. Graham, USA (Ret), Lyman G. Kirkpatrick, Jr., and Leo Cherne. The Center is an educational, non-profit organization for the study of American national intelligence and is sponsoring a contest for writing on national intelligence.

The Center will award a prize for \$1,000 for the best book, \$500 for the best scholarly article and \$500 for the best journalistic writing by a U.S. citizen on an aspect of national intelligence published or written in 1978. The purpose of these awards — and of the NISC itself — is to foster, through objective writing, a better public understanding of the historical role and current functions of our intelligence agencies and of their vital contribution to national defense, arms control, the maintenance of peace, and the understanding of the peculiar problems of conducting intelligence in a democratic society.

Nominations for the prizes must be made by 1 January 1979. They need not be published articles, but the manuscript must have been written in 1978. Address your recommendations, or submit your original material — properly cleared for publication if required — to the National Intelligence Study Center, P. O. Box 34682, Washington, D.C. 20034. Also, if your original manuscript is unpublished, send a copy to us. We would like to have an opportunity to give you visibility also.

Richard Bates
Captain USN
President